

**Minutes**  
**Special/Public Hearing Council Meeting**  
**September 13, 2016**

On this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September 2016, at 6:00 p.m., the City Council of the City of Devine convened in a Special Meeting; the same being opened to the public at their regular meeting place; thereof, at City Hall, 303 S. Teel Drive, Devine, Texas. Notice of said Meeting having been prescribed in Chapter 551, Government Code, and Vernon's Texas Codes, Annotated, and the following members being present:

Mayor William L. Herring  
Alderman Hal Lance  
Aldерwoman Kathy Wilkins  
Alderman Steve A. Lopez  
Alderman David Valdez

Absent being Alderman David Espinosa; thus, constituting a quorum.

Personnel present: Dora V. Rodriguez, Interim City Administrator/City Secretary; Denise Duffy, City Accountant; Mary Badillo, Financial Advisor; Tom Cate, City Attorney; Kandy Benavides, Chief of Police; Ismael Carrillo, Director of Public Works; Barbara Moore, Library Director; and Ofilia Pedroza, UB Clerk.

Others present: Marly Davis, Devine News; Blain Martin and Kelli Maxwell, Friends of the Library; David Ehlinger, Ernest Munoz, Jr. and Sonia J. Lance, of Devine, Texas.

Mayor Herring, presiding, declared the meeting open.

The first order of business was a Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget for FY 2016-2017.

At 6:01 p.m., Mayor Herring announced that the Public Hearing was open.

Mr. Blain Martin addressed his concerns for the Library over the budget. Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez informed Council that all of his concerns are already in the budget.

Alderman Lopez inquired if the library has plenty of space. According to Library Director Barbara Moore, they could always use more space. She stated she would love to have more meeting rooms, so that is a concern.

At 6:06 p.m., Mayor Herring closed the Public Hearing.

The second order of business was a Public Hearing on the Proposed Tax Rate for FY 2016-2017.

At 6:06 p.m., Mayor Herring announced that the Public Hearing was open. Mayor Herring stated that the proposed tax rate is remaining the same as last year at \$0.5110/\$100 valuation; it's been the same for the last two years.

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Council heard from Mr. Ernest Munoz who had a few questions for Council, namely:

- How does our city tax rate compare to surrounding cities?
- Does the city maintain an Emergency Fund and is it a requirement by the State?

Council addressed his concerns. Mr. Munoz commented that as a longtime resident of Devine, he appreciates everything that the City is doing.

At 6:11 p.m., Mayor Herring closed the Public Hearing.

The third order of business was to discuss and consider approving Major Medical and Life Insurance for FY 2016-2017.

Council and City Financial Officer Mary Badillo held lengthy discussion with Insurance Agent Ernest Munoz.

Motion by Alderman Lopez, seconded by Alderwoman Wilkins to approve the \$525.73 Plan for Major Medical and Life Insurance for FY 2016-2017.

Ayes	--	Four
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Alderman Espinosa

Motion carried.

The fourth order of business was the Budget Workshop.

City Financial Advisor Mary Badillo addressed Council on several issues that we are still working on, namely:

- Health Insurance
- TMRS
- COLA
- Longevity Pay
- Merit

The Health Insurance, we already got out of the way. TMRS – She informed Council that there is a proposal to increase it from 12.85 to 16.53. She explained that if it gets increased to 16.53, it would mean that the employees' portion (what they contribute) will raise from 5% to 6% based on each employee's salary.

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There being no further business to come before the governing body, motion made by Alderman Lance, seconded by Alderman Lopez to adjourn meeting.

Ayes	--	Four
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Alderman Espinosa

Motion carried.

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Mayor

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City Secretary